

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Tsutomu Okada	Examiner:	Matthew J. Kasztejna
Serial No:	10/764,892	Art Unit:	3739
Filed:	January 26, 2004	Docket:	17376
For:	DIATHERMIC SNARE, MEDICAL INSTRUMENT SYSTEM USING THE SNARE, AND METHOD OF ASSEMBLING THE MEDICAL INSTRUMENT SYSTEM	Dated:	April 29, 2008

Confirmation No.: 9699

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

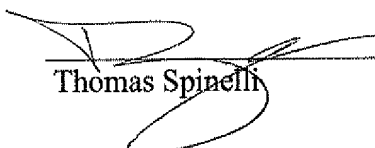
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2000-116661, dated April 25, 2000.

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent & Trademark Office via Electronic Filing through the United States Patent and Trademark Office e-business website, on April 29, 2008.

Dated: April 29, 2008


Thomas Spinelli

The reference was cited in an Official Action dated March 11, 2008 received from the Japanese Patent Office. Applicant is submitting a copy of the above-cited reference required by 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i) and (ii), the Official Action, and an English translation of the Official Action. The relevance of the reference is described in the Official Action. Please note that the other reference cited in the Official Action, namely, Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-45369, dated February 12, 2002, was previously submitted in Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement dated January 26, 2004.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of an Official Action by a foreign examiner in which the reference was cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the reference was cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

The undersigned attorney hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicant also submits the requisite \$180.00 official fee pursuant to § 1.17(p) by authorization to charge deposit account 19-1013/SSMP.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Spinelli
Reg. No. 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser, P.C.
400 Garden City Plaza - Ste. 300
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 742-4343

TS:jam